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Summary

Contents

CONTENTS



Population

Includes: Population change; Queensland; Regional population growth



Labour Force

Includes: Job vacancies; Employed persons; Unemployment; Participation rate; Employed persons by Industry



Prices

Includes: Consumer Price Index (CPI)



Production

Includes: Building approvals; Building activity; Engineering construction



Housing Finance

Includes: Housing finance commitments



Incomes

Includes: Average Weekly Earnings



Consumption and Investment

Includes: Retail trade; New motor vehicle sales; Private Capital Expenditure



Tourist Accommodation

Includes: Queensland hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms



Interstate Trade

Includes: Queensland's interstate trade

Population



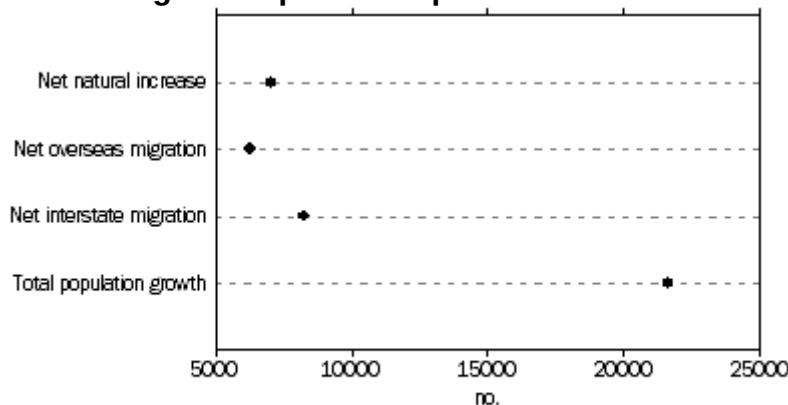
POPULATION

POPULATION CHANGE, QUEENSLAND

The preliminary estimated resident population (ERP) for Queensland was 4,132,000 at 31 December 2006, an increase of 82,400 (2.0%) since 31 December 2005. Queensland accounted for 20% of the Australian population at 31 December 2006.

Between the September 2006 quarter and the December 2006 quarter, net interstate migration contributed nearly 40% (8,300 persons) of the total population increase (21,600 persons). Net natural increase (excess of births over deaths) contributed 7,000 persons and net overseas migration contributed 6,300 persons.

Population change from previous quarter - December 2006 quarter



Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0).

Further information about Queensland's population can be accessed from [Australian Demographic Statistics](#) (cat. no. 3101.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

REGIONAL POPULATION GROWTH

At 30 June 2006, the Queensland population was estimated to be 4,053,400 persons. The south east corner comprising Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and West Moreton Statistical Divisions accounted for nearly two-thirds (66%) of the state's population.

Regional population(a), By Statistical Division - At 30 June - 2001 to 2006

	2001 '000	2005 '000	2006 '000
Statistical Division			
Brisbane	1 629.1	1 790.9	1 820.4
Gold Coast	432.6	494.2	507.9
Sunshine Coast	247.2	283.5	290.2
West Moreton	65.7	69.8	70.9

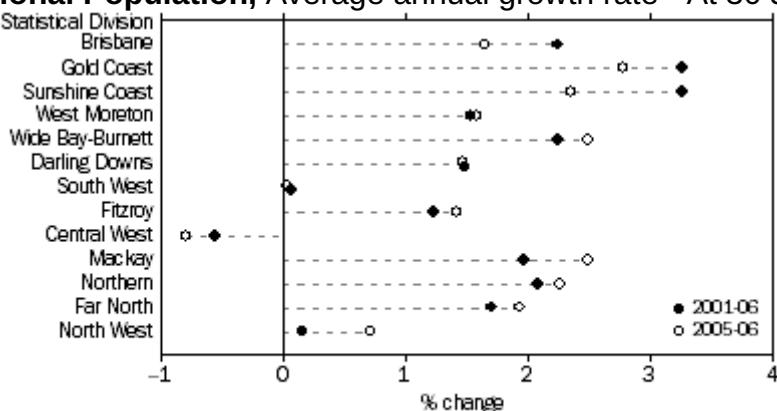
Wide Bay-Burnett	236.5	257.8	264.2
Darling Downs	210.4	223.2	226.4
South West	27.0	27.1	27.1
Fitzroy	181.7	190.5	193.2
Central West	12.5	12.3	12.2
Mackay	137.5	147.9	151.6
Northern	190.3	206.3	210.9
Far North	224.2	239.3	243.9
North West	34.3	34.3	34.6
Queensland	3 628.9	3 977.1	4 053.4

(a) Estimates of the resident population as at 30 June 2001 are final. Data for 2005 are revised and 2006 are preliminary.

Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia (cat. no. 3218.0).

The fastest growing Statistical Divisions were Gold Coast (2.8%), Wide Bay-Burnett (2.5%) and Mackay (2.5%). The only Statistical Division to record a negative change over the twelve months between 30 June 2005 and 30 June 2006 was the Central West Statistical Division (-0.8%). The South West Statistical Division recorded no change.

Regional Population, Average annual growth rate - At 30 June



Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia (cat. no. 3218.0).

For more information on Queensland's regional population distribution, please refer to [Regional Population Growth, Australia](#) (cat. no. 3218.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released annually.

Labour Force



LABOUR FORCE

- Job Vacancies
- Employed Persons
- Unemployment
- Participation rate
- Employed Persons by Industry

JOB VACANCIES

In original terms, Queensland's total number of job vacancies decreased to 38,700 in February 2007 from 38,800 in November 2006. The February 2007 vacancies were 20% higher than in February 2006. Public sector vacancies accounted for less than one in ten (9.9%) of total job vacancies in February 2007.

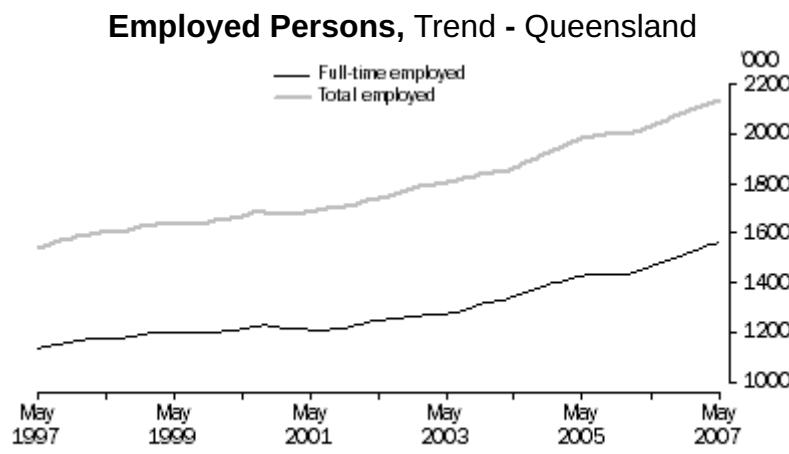


Further information on this topic can be accessed at [Job Vacancies, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6354.0). This publication is released quarterly.

[Back to top](#)

EMPLOYED PERSONS

In May 2007, total employment in Queensland in trend terms rose to 2,134,100 persons. Full-time employed persons (1,565,900) accounted for 73% of total employed persons. Males accounted for 65% of full-time employed persons and 55% of total employed persons.

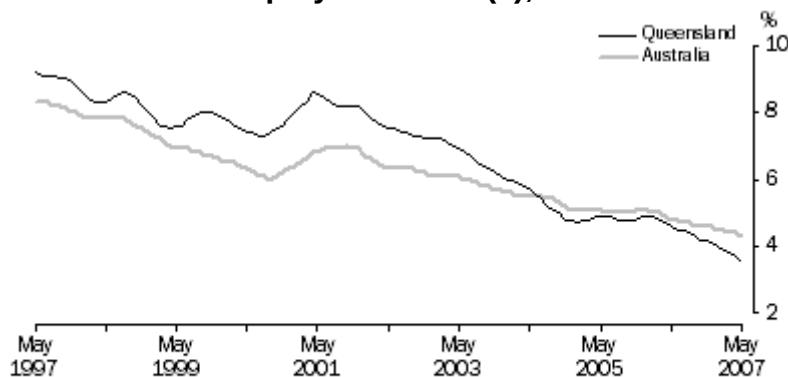


[Back to top](#)

UNEMPLOYMENT

The trend estimate of the number of unemployed persons in Queensland continues to fall and in May 2007 was 78,200 persons. This equates to an unemployment rate of 3.5%. Since July 2004, the Queensland unemployment rate has been equal to or lower than the national unemployment rate.

Unemployment Rate(a), Trend

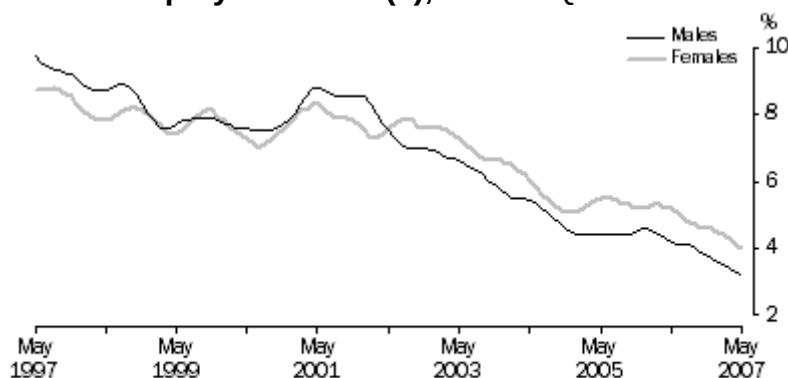


(a) Series break at April 2001.

Source: *Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets* (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001).

Females accounted for 51% of the number of unemployed persons in Queensland in May 2007 and had an unemployment rate of 4.0%. The corresponding male unemployment rate was 3.2%. Females have had higher rates of unemployment than their male counterparts since April 2002.

Unemployment Rate(a), Trend - Queensland



(a) Series break at April 2001.

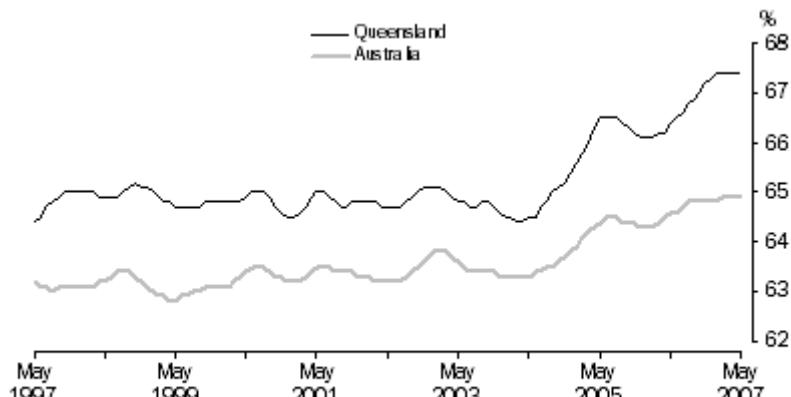
Source: *Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets* (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001).

[Back to top](#)

PARTICIPATION RATE

The trend estimate of the participation rate for Queensland in May 2007 was 67.4% and has been steady since January 2007. This rate is 4.7% higher than May 1997 (64.4%) and the highest level recorded for the period May 1997 to May 2007. Queensland has consistently recorded higher participation rates than the national average and this gap has broadened over the last twelve months to 2.4 percentage points in May 2007.

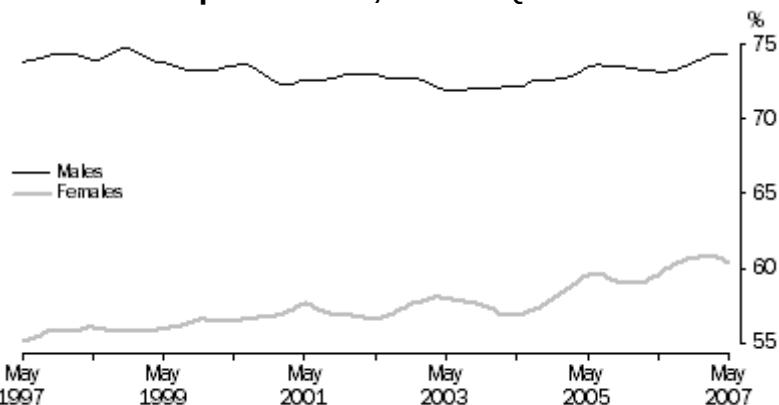
Participation Rate, Trend



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001).

For Queensland, the trend participation rate for females has been 60% or greater for the last eleven months reaching 60.4% in May 2007. This is a 9.6% increase on the female participation rate recorded in May 1997 (55.1%). The male participation rate in May 2007 was 74.4%, an increase of 0.7% on the rate recorded for May 1997 (73.9%).

Participation Rate, Trend - Queensland



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001).

Further information on these topics can be accessed at [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0) and [Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets](#) (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. These publications are released monthly.

[Back to top](#)

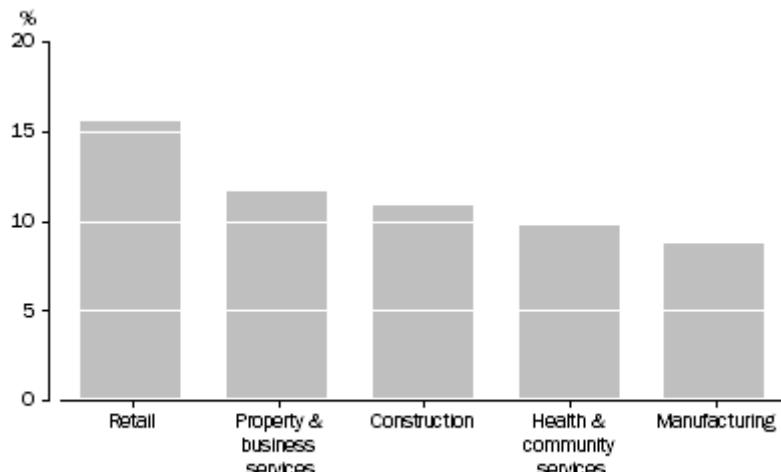
EMPLOYED PERSONS BY INDUSTRY

There were 2,104,400 employed persons in Queensland in February 2007. The industries with the most number of employed persons were Retail trade (327,300), Property and business services (244,300) and Construction (228,400). Those industries employing the least number of persons included Electricity, gas and water (17,900), Communication services (32,900) and Mining (37,500).

The five major industries with the most number of employees accounted for over half (57%) of Queensland's employed persons.

[Employed persons by Industry, Original - Percentage of total employed: Queensland -](#)

February 2007



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003).

In the year February 2006 to February 2007, the greatest increase of employed persons occurred in Communication services (34%) and Agriculture, forestry and fishing (22%). In the same period, Personal and other services and Electricity, gas and water supply had the greatest decrease in employed persons with reductions of -12% and -9.6%, respectively.

Note: Employed persons by industry has been reported in original terms and cannot be directly compared to the trend estimates reported for Labour Force.

For more detailed information on this topic, please refer to [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly](#) (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

[Back to top](#)

Prices

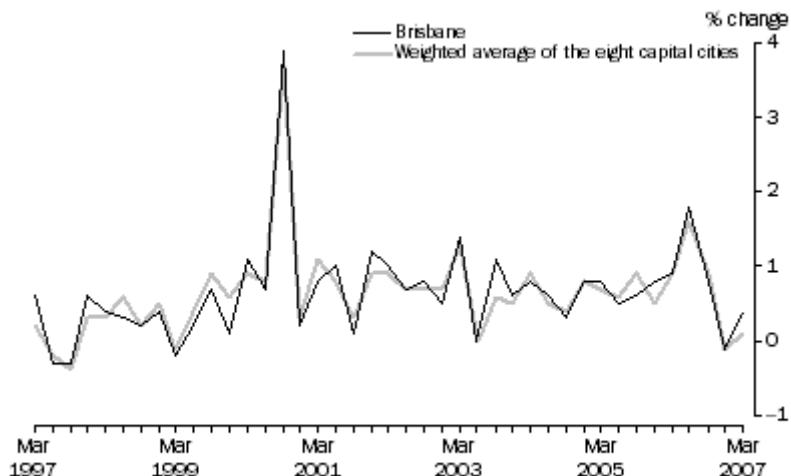


PRICES

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The all groups consumer price index (CPI) for Brisbane increased by 2.9% in the 12 months to March 2007, compared to a 2.4% rise in the weighted average of the eight capital cities. Brisbane's CPI rose by 0.4% between the December quarter 2006 and the March quarter 2007 and for the same period, the weighted average of the eight capital cities rose by 0.1%.

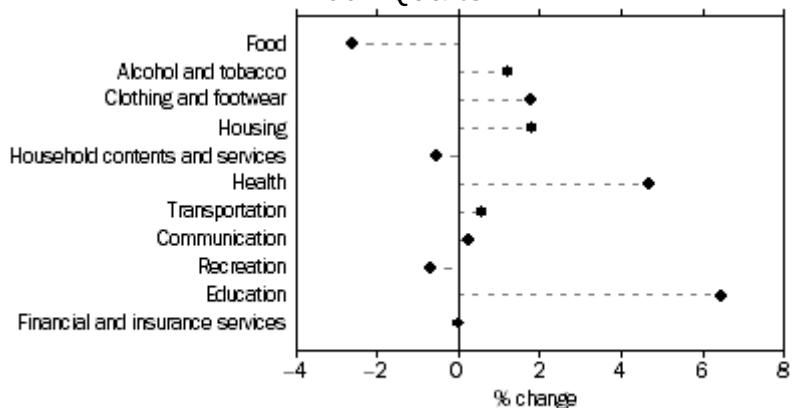
Consumer Price Index - All Groups, Original - Percentage change from previous quarter



Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0).

In the March 2007 quarter, the categories with the largest percentage increases were Education (6.5%) and Health (4.7%). The decrease in the cost of bananas contributed to the fall in food prices (-2.6%). Recreation (-0.7%) and Household contents and services (-0.5%) also experienced falls in prices between the December 2006 quarter and the March 2007 quarter.

CPI Movement, Brisbane, Original - Percentage change from previous quarter: March 2007 Quarter



Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0).

For more detailed information on the consumer price index, please refer to [Consumer Price Index, Australia](#) (cat no. 6401.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

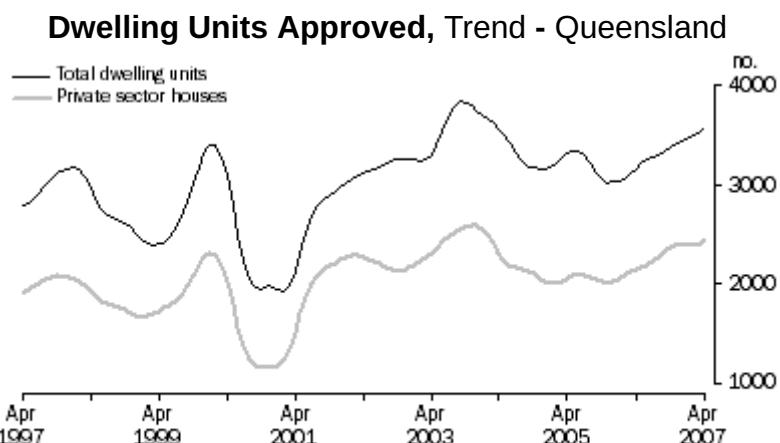
Production



PRODUCTION

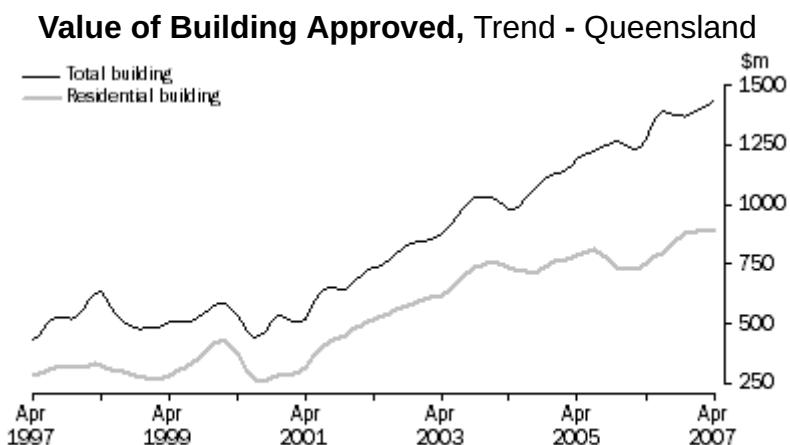
BUILDING APPROVALS

In April 2007, the total number of dwelling units approved in Queensland in trend terms was 3,580. The trend estimate for total dwelling units approved is now showing rises for the past seventeen months. The trend estimate for private sector houses was 2,439 approvals and represents 68% of total dwelling units approved.



Source: Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0).

In April 2007, the total value in trend terms of building approvals was \$1,439.6 million, a 13% increase from April 2006. Residential buildings accounted for 62% of the total value of buildings.



Source: Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0).

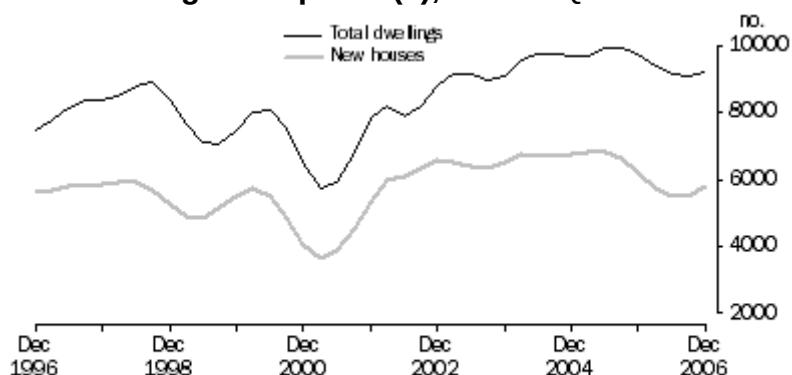
For more information on this topic, please refer to [Building Approvals, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8731.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

BUILDING ACTIVITY

In the December 2006 quarter, the total number of dwellings completed in trend terms in Queensland was 9,196. This is a 1.5% increase from the September 2006 quarter and follows falls for the previous four quarters. There were 5,819 new houses completed during the December 2006 quarter which represents 63% of the total number of dwellings

completed.

Dwellings Completed(a), Trend - Queensland

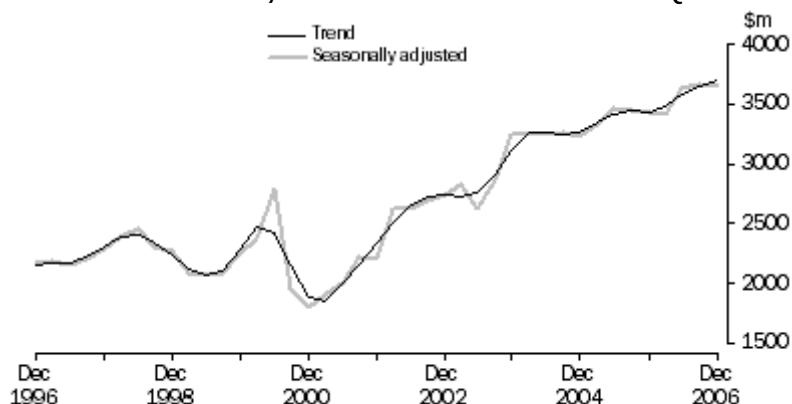


(a) Includes alterations, additions and conversions.

Source: Building Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8752.0).

In the December 2006 quarter, the trend estimate of the value of total building work done was \$3,696.6 million, a 7.5% increase from December 2005.

Value of Work Done, Chain Volume Measures - Queensland



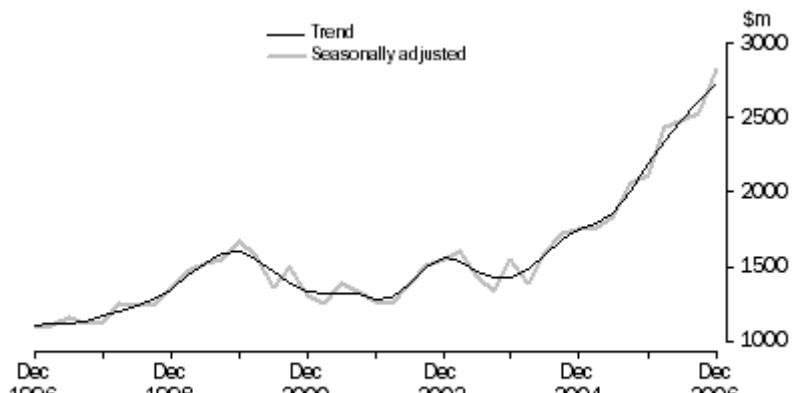
Source: Building Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8752.0).

For more information on this topic, please refer to [Building Activity, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8752.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION

Between the September 2006 and December 2006 quarters, the Queensland chain volume trend estimate of the value of engineering construction increased by 4.5% to \$2,731.2 million. This continues the period of strong growth since December 2003.

Engineering Construction Work Done, Chain Volume Measures



Source: *Engineering Construction Activity, Australia* (cat. no. 8762.0).

For further information on this topic, access [Engineering Construction Activity, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8762.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

Housing Finance



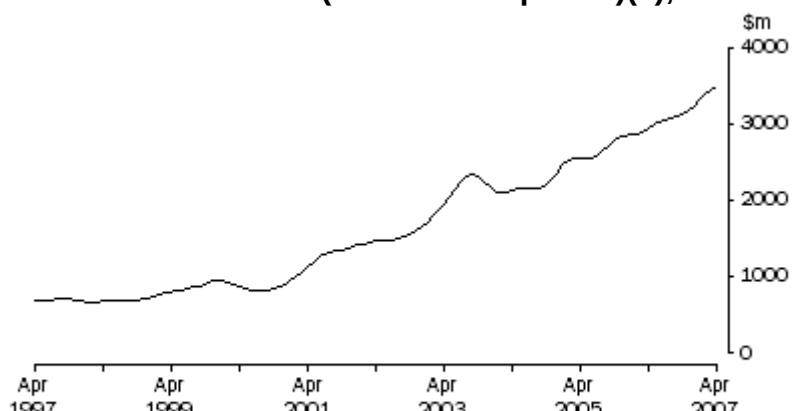
HOUSING FINANCE

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS

The number of owner occupied housing commitments in trend estimate terms increased by 12% to 15,322 in April 2007 compared with April 2006.

The trend estimate of the total value of housing finance commitments for owner occupation in Queensland has risen by 19% to \$3,503 million in the 12 months to April 2007.

Housing Finance Commitments (Owner Occupation)(a), Trend - Queensland

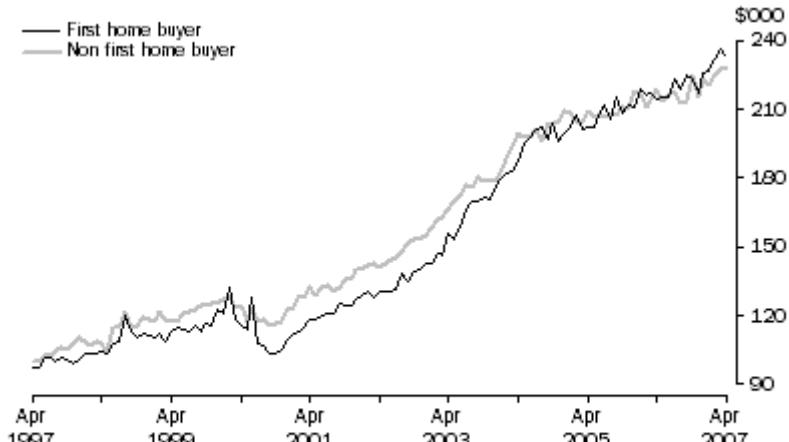


(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

Source: *Housing Finance, Australia* (cat. no. 5609.0).

Since April 1997, the average home loan commitment for owner occupied dwellings in Queensland has more than doubled from \$99,200 to \$228,700. The commitment for first home buyers (\$233,200) was slightly higher than for non first home buyers (\$227,800).

Average Loan Size by Type of Buyer (Owner Occupation)(a), Original - Queensland



(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.
Source: *Housing Finance, Australia* (cat. no. 5609.0).

Further information on this topic is available in [Housing Finance, Australia](#) (cat. no. 5609.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

Incomes



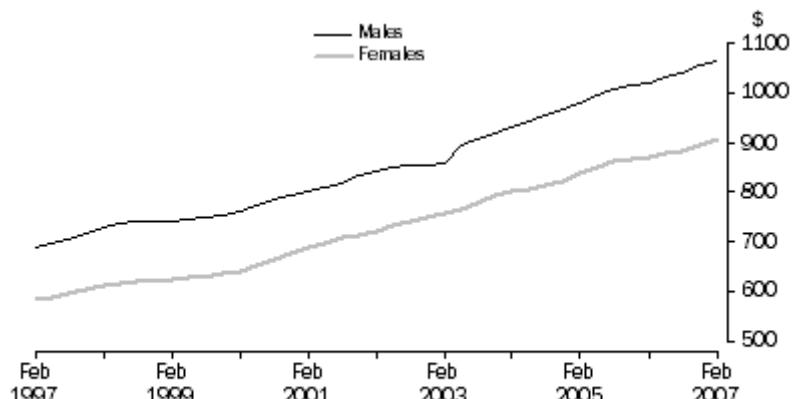
INCOMES

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

The trend estimate of average weekly ordinary time earnings for full-time adult persons in Queensland increased by 4.2% to \$1,008.50 in the 12 months to February 2007. Nationally, the corresponding increase was smaller at 3.4% (up to \$1070.40).

The trend estimate of full-time adult average weekly ordinary time earnings in Queensland rose by 4.4% for males and 3.9% for females over the 12 months to February 2007. The February 2007 female estimate of \$905.80 was 85% of the corresponding male estimate of \$1066.80.

Average Weekly Earnings, Full-Time Adult Ordinary Time - Trend: Queensland



Source: *Average Weekly Earnings, Australia* (cat. no. 6302.0).

More information on average weekly earnings can be accessed at [Average Weekly Earnings, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6302.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

Consumption and Investment

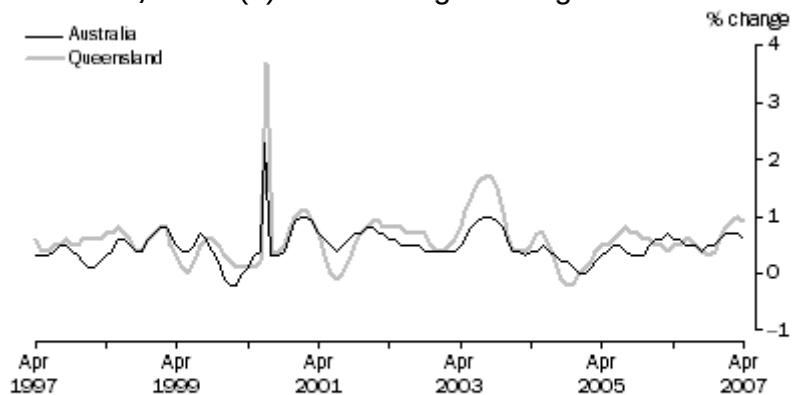


CONSUMPTION AND INVESTMENT

RETAIL TURNOVER

The April 2007 trend estimate for Queensland's retail turnover was \$ 3,866.8 million, a 7.7% increase compared with April 2006. Food retailing accounted for 40% of total retail turnover in April 2007 and Hospitality and service industries turnover contributed 16%.

Retail Turnover, Trend(a) - Percentage Change from Previous Month



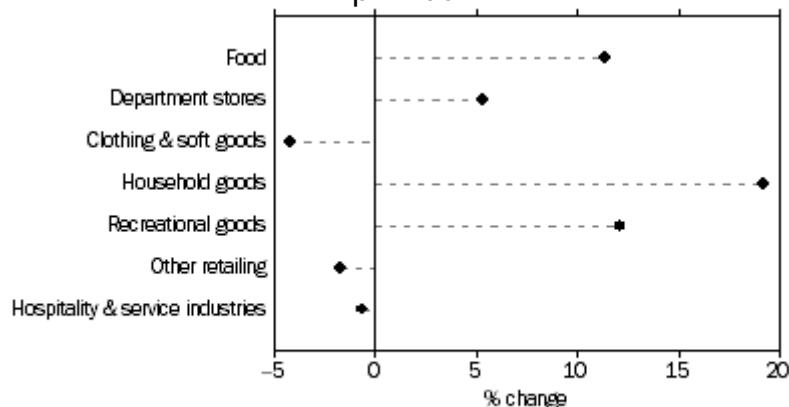
(a) There was a break in the trend series from July 2000 due to the introduction of The New Tax System.

Source: *Retail Trade, Australia* (cat. no. 8501.0).

The Queensland industry groups with the largest percentage increases in retail turnover (trend) in the twelve months to April 2007 were Household goods, rising 19% to \$616.5

million and Recreational goods rising 12% to \$167.1 million. The industry group which reported the largest decrease in retail turnover was Clothing and soft goods, down 4.2% to \$249.9 million.

Retail Turnover By Industry Group, Trend - Percentage change over twelve months to April 2007



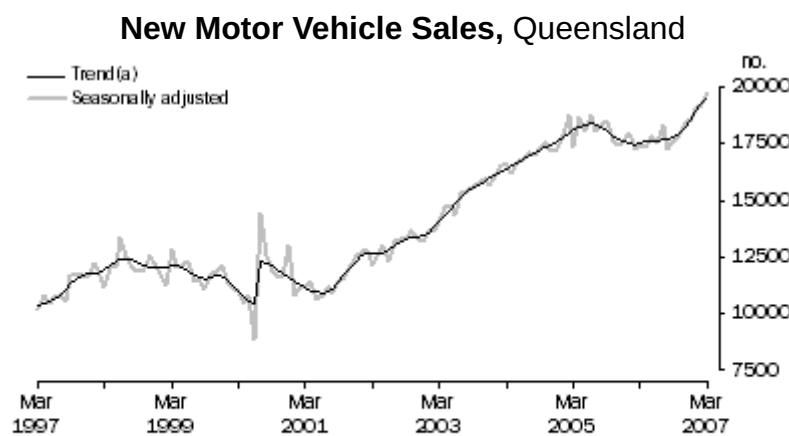
Source: Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0).

Further information about this topic can be accessed at [Retail Trade, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8501.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

In trend terms, 11,006 new passenger vehicles and 19,493 vehicles in total were sold in March 2007 in Queensland. Corresponding sales for Australia were 54,332 and 87,134.

In March 1997, new passenger vehicle sales accounted for 69% of total vehicle sales in Queensland. By March 2007, the proportion of new passenger vehicle sales had fallen to 57%.



(a) There was a break in the trend series between June 2000 and July 2000 due to the introduction of The New Tax System.

Source: Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 9314.0.55.001).

Further information about new motor vehicle sales can be accessed from [Sales of New](#)

[Motor Vehicles, Australia](#) (cat no. 9314.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Telstra Corporation was effectively privatised on 20 November 2006. For the purposes of ABS statistics, this change from public sector to private sector is effective from March quarter 2007. This change has impacted on the data series available for private new capital expenditure. Trend series data is not available for publication for March quarter 2007. For more information please see Information Paper: [Future Treatment of Telstra in ABS Statistics, 2007](#) (cat. no. 8102.0).

In March quarter 2007, the Queensland chain volume seasonally adjusted estimate of private new capital expenditure was \$3,900 million. This series has been affected by the privatisation of Telstra.

Further information on this topic can be accessed at [Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia](#) (cat. no. 5625.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

Tourist Accommodation

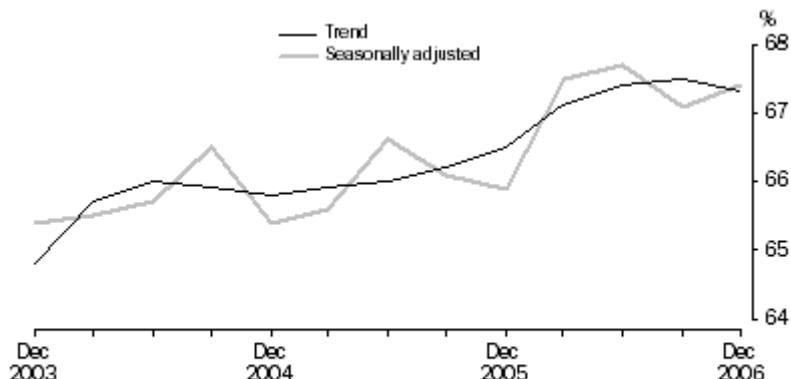


TOURIST ACCOMMODATION

QUEENSLAND HOTELS, MOTELS AND SERVICED APARTMENTS WITH 15 OR MORE ROOMS

In the December 2006 quarter, there were 1,081 hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms. These establishments had a guest room capacity of 57,793 rooms. The trend estimate of the room occupancy rate for Queensland (67%) was slightly higher than the national average (65%).

Room Occupancy Rate, Queensland



Source: Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Queensland - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 8635.3.55.001).

In the December 2006 quarter, hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms catered for 2.7 million guest arrivals. These Queensland accommodation establishments reported the longest average length of stay for guests (2.7 days). The average length of stay for the whole of Australia during the same period was 2.3 days.

The trend estimate of the total accommodation takings for hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 rooms or more continued to increase. In the December 2006 quarter, accommodation takings rose by 3.4% to \$478.8 million from the September 2006 quarter.

For more detailed information on Queensland's tourist accommodation, please refer to [Tourist Accommodation, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8635.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

Interstate Trade



INTERSTATE TRADE

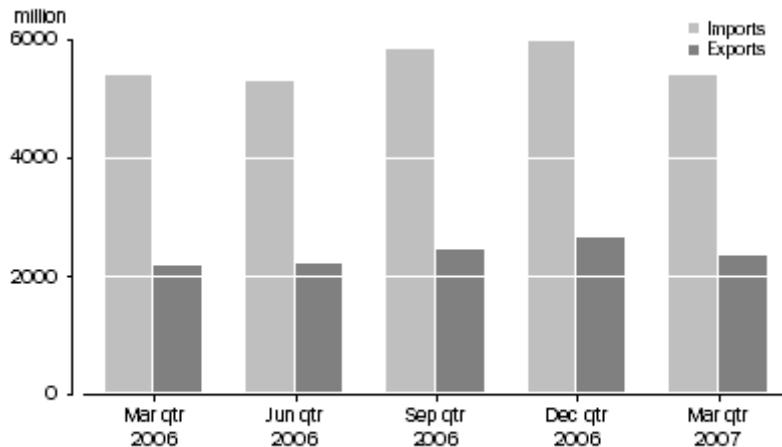
QUEENSLAND'S INTERSTATE TRADE

The value of interstate imports for Queensland in the March 2007 quarter was \$5,408.5 million, a 10% decrease on the previous quarter and 0.5% higher than the same quarter in 2006.

The value in the March 2007 quarter of interstate exports was \$2,339.6 million, a 12% decrease on the previous quarter and 7.3% higher than the same quarter 12 months earlier.

For the last 5 quarters, the value of imports has ranged between two and two and half times the value of exports.

Value of Interstate Imports and Exports(a), Queensland



(a) September quarter 2006 figures were revised due to a systems error.

Source: Queensland Treasury, Office of Economic and Statistical Research.

NOTE: In compiling the estimates of Interstate Trade for the Office of Economic and Statistical Research, the ABS uses a partial coverage census based on businesses with more than \$400,000 of interstate trade. This collection is now under review due to frame and coverage issues. New businesses are not well represented, so the estimates are likely to be understated. The estimates are prepared for use in the compilation of Treasury's State Accounts and users should exercise strong caution in their independent use.

For further information on this topic, please contact Queensland Treasury, Office of Economic and Statistical Research. Interstate trade data are released quarterly.

Articles

ARTICLES

ARTICLES ON STATISTICAL ISSUES WITH A QUEENSLAND THEME

Preferred working hours of wage and salary earners in Queensland

This article presents a summary of the key findings of the October 2006 State Supplementary Survey, Preferred Working Hours of Wage and Salary Earners in Queensland. Selected characteristics of the 1.6 million wage and salary earners estimated to be residing in Queensland in October 2006 are presented with a link to more detailed information.

Index of Articles

This provides a list of articles that have been released in previous issues of Qld Stats with links to those articles.

News and Information

NEWS AND INFORMATION

NEW METHOD FOR ESTIMATING NET OVERSEAS MIGRATION

Over recent years there has been a large increase in the volumes of international travellers crossing Australia's borders. There has also been increased frequency of travel, and significant volatility in the patterns of international travel with major world events impacting on international travel to and from Australia.

In 2006, 10.9 million people arrived in Australia from overseas and 10.7 million people left Australia. A large proportion of these travellers were visitors from overseas who stayed for a short visit, and Australian residents travelling overseas for less than 12 months.

In response to these changes, the ABS has developed improved methods for estimating net overseas migration.

Determining how many international travellers are to be accounted for in estimating the Australian population is achieved by compiling estimates of Net Overseas Migration. Only people living in Australia for 12 months or more are added to the population. Residents leaving Australia for 12 months or more are subtracted from the population of Australia.

Net overseas migration is a major driver of quarterly population growth in the ABS' estimated resident population statistics. Net overseas migration accounts for around half of the annual population growth of Australia.

The Information Paper: [Statistical Implications of Improved Methods for Estimating Net Overseas Migration, Australia 2007](#) (cat. no. 3107.0.55.005) provides an overview of the improved methods. The Information Paper also contains analysis of the statistical impacts on estimates of net overseas migration for the period from December quarter 2003 to June quarter 2006.

Estimates calculated using the improved methods will be applied in compiling estimates of the resident population of Australia, the states and territories from September quarter 2006.

NEW METHOD OF ESTIMATION FOR THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

An improved method of estimation for the Labour Force Survey (LFS) has been introduced for April 2007 data. The new method, known as composite estimation, is more efficient than the previous estimation method. That is, the composite estimator achieves a given level of standard error at lower cost than the previous estimator.

As part of introducing composite estimation, the ABS has revised all the statistics in the Labour Force publication and associated spreadsheet files back to April 2001 based on the

new estimation method.

For information on the statistical impacts of this new estimation method, please refer to [Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics](#) (cat. no. 6292.0).

PRIVATISATION OF TELSTRA

Telstra Corporation was effectively privatised on 20 November 2006. For the purposes of ABS statistics, this change from public sector to private sector is effective from March quarter 2007. The changed treatment of Telstra will not impact on economy wide measures of economic activity. However, for a range of ABS published statistics the changed classification may cause significant increases/declines in the levels of some statistical series from the March quarter 2007. For more information please see [Information Paper: Future Treatment of Telstra in ABS Statistics, 2007](#) (cat. no. 8102.0).

ABS RELEASE INFORMATION

Information on all ABS future product releases can be accessed from [ABS Release Advice](#). This web page also provides links to **Previous Releases** and **Main Economic Indicator Releases**.

QUEENSLAND THEME PAGE

This page provides access to Queensland statistical information including statistical releases and links to non-ABS sources. A wide range of economic and social statistics is covered.

About this Release

Qld Stats is an electronic magazine containing an overview of Queensland's key economic and social indicators presented in graphs, tables and analytical summaries with links to more detailed products. Qld Stats also contains news of seminars, releases and other matters of statistical interest for Queensland.

Qld Stats replaces Queensland Key Statistics (cat. no. 1388.3) and Statistical Update, Queensland (cat. no. 1316.3). These two products have been discontinued.

Qld Stats is issued monthly, after the release of Labour Force data, with tables and graphs updated to the latest available data. Analytical summaries are included when available.

Readers can get further information, including Explanatory Notes, on each of the topics by using the links to source materials contained on each page.

Index of Articles

INDEX OF ARTICLES

Issue	Article Title
2007	
May	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey 2004-05 - Queensland
	Energy Use and Conservation, March 2005

Preferred Working Hours of Wage and Salary Earners, Queensland, October 2006 (Feature Article)

PREFERRED WORKING HOURS OF WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS, QUEENSLAND, OCTOBER 2006

In October 2006, an estimated 1.6 million wage and salary earners resided in private dwellings in Queensland. Of these, 842,500 were male wage and salary earners who usually worked an average of 40.7 hours per week compared with 786,800 female wage and salary earners who usually worked an average of 31.7 hours per week.

In total, 505,000 (31.0%) wage and salary earners in Queensland usually worked more than 40 hours per week. Of these, 367,300 (72.7%) were male.

One in five (19.9% or 323,600) wage and salary earners reported that they usually worked unpaid hours. Education and Training was the industry with the highest proportion of wage and salary earners who reported usually working unpaid hours (47.0%).

Of all male wage and salary earners, 18.9% (159,500) worked an average of 7.6 hours of paid overtime per week while 6.0% (47,000) of female wage and salary earners worked an average of 4.5 hours of paid overtime per week. Manufacturing (27.6%) and Construction (27.2%) were the industries with the highest proportions of wage and salary earners working paid overtime.

Just over half of all wage and salary earners preferred their usual hours per week (50.8% or 828,000) while one-third (33.4% or 545,300) reported that they would like to work fewer hours. The remainder (14.1% or 229,500) reported that they would like to work more hours per week.

More than half of Managers (57.8%) reported that they would prefer to work fewer hours per week with 22.3% of these wage and salary earners willing to work fewer hours for less pay.

PREFERRED WORKING HOURS, Wage and Salary Earmers



Further information about this topic can be accessed at [Preferred Working Hours of Wage and Salary Earners, Queensland, Oct 2006](#) (cat. no. 6365.3) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

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